

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 1826 without my signature.

This is a surplus property bill and, as such, it should be included in the Department of General Services' (DGS) annual omnibus bill. The DGS is required by law to submit a bill to the Legislature to dispose of any surplus land by sale, lease, or exchange. This process has worked well for most of the last decade. Recently, however, the Legislature has chosen to add millions of dollars in expenses to this process by requiring a CEQA document to be generated prior to the sale of the State's property.

I am requesting that the Legislature articulate why these properties are acceptable to be acted on without a CEQA requirement, but not the others that were included in the omnibus surplus property bill. Until such time that this issue can be resolved, a piecemeal approach to the sale of surplus property is not acceptable.

As a result, I will not sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger